REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-11 and 13-32 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 5, 11, 13, 23 and 27 have been amended. Reconsideration and allowance in view of the following is respectfully requested.

A.   Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 6-11, 13-16, 18-26, and 28-32 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,091,424 issued to Madden et al. ("Madden") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,320,577 issued to Alexander ("Alexander") and U.S. Patent No. 6,920,608 issued to Davis ("Davis"). The applicant respectfully submits that the present invention is not obvious over Madden in view of Alexander and Davis because the combination of Madden, Alexander and Davis suggested by the Examiner still does not disclose all of the claimed elements of the present invention.

Madden discloses a process which provides automated placement of labels for a given graph layout or map. *See e.g.,* abstract. Madden teaches the use of an optimization problem to find a set of label placements for each graphical feature of a graph layout or map. *See* Col. 5, line 47-Col. 6, line 19. Madden only discloses finding a label placement for each graphical feature of a graph layout or map that has the least cost which is free of overlaps, but not analyzing the information associated with the label. *See* Col. 5, line 47-Col. 6, line 19; Col. 7, lines 20-22. The crucial distinction between inventions referred to by the Examiner and the claimed invention resides in the label data that is manipulated and organized by the claimed invention versus the placement and collection of data for the labels in the inventions cited by the Examiner. The Applicant

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respectfully submits that Madden does not provide sufficient basis for deeming the claims

of the present invention obvious. Madden only teaches finding the optimum location for

the placement of labels for the graphical features of a graph layout or map that is

provided as input to the method. Madden does not teach extracting and analyzing time

label information comprising time labels genearted to corresponds to hierarchical levels

of time, by extracting and analyzing time label information from input data comprising

informational data and corresponding time data, determining which of the time labels in

the plurality of hierarchical levels of time fit along the time axis based on the

informational data, and for each time label in the plurality of time labels that fits along

the time axis based on the information data, including the time label in an initial time

label set andstoring the time ~~label~~ labels in the initial time label set ~~information~~ in the

multi-level data structure. The present invention discloses manipulation of the labels'

time data itself, disregarding the values associated with a given time, and using that

information to label the axis of a graph. Madden neither discloses nor suggests any of the

above features. Further, Madden does not teach the creation of a multi-level data

structure in which to store the extracted time data that is then used to label the axis of a

graph, as also stated in Claim 1. For these reasons, Madden alone does not render the

above claimed invention obvious.

Combining Madden with Alexander also does not render the claimed invention

obvious, as Alexander only teaches a system for moving a label's position. Given that

Madden does not teach the appropriate interaction and manipulation of the time data, any

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manipulation of the presentation of data as taught by Alexander is irrelevant to the present invention.

Therefore, as both Madden and Alexander, either alone or combined, do not teach the time labels by extracting and analyzing time label information from input data comprising time labels, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections based on Madden in light of Alexander do not render the independent claim 1 obvious. Claims 11, 13, and 23 are similar to claim 1, and are thus traversed by the same reasoning. As claims 2-10, 14-22, and 24-32 depend from the aforementioned independent claims, the objections regarding these have been traversed as well.

Combining Madden and Alexander with Davis also does not render the claimed invention obvious, as Davis only teaches using data and attributes deacribing the meaning of the data to display axis labels. Given that Madden and Alexander do not teach the appropriate interaction and manipulation of the time labels, any manipulation of the presentation of data as taught by Davis is irrelevant to the present invention.

B.   Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, all of the Examiner's rejections to the claims are believed to be overcome. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and issuance of a Notice of Allowance for all the claims remaining in the application. Should the Examiner feel further communication would facilitate prosecution, he is urged to call the undersigned at the phone number provided below. The Commissioner is hereby

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authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with this

application to Deposit Account No. 19-5127 (19111.0013).

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: May 1, 2006   By:_____

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